

Application No. 10/008,960
Docket No. 3634-25

Remarks

A. Amendments

Claims 1, 6, 10, 11 and 18 have been amended to change "shown as" to "depicted in" which is consistent with the language used in Claims 3, 7, and 8 when referring to the amino acid sequence.

Claims 2, 5, and 7 have been amended to clarify that the SDI-1 protein and fusion protein are encoded by the deposited sequences referred to in the specific claims or claim sections.

Claim 3 has been amended to claim antibodies specifically binding to the SDI-1 protein as well as the SDI-1 fusion protein, both of which comprise the amino acid sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 4 has been amended to correct the reference to the SDI-1 protein from "the" to "an".

Claim 6 has been amended to identify the protein as "an SDI-1 protein" and to identify the fusion protein as "an SDI-1 fusion protein". In addition, the phrase "at least" has been deleted since it is unnecessary due to the use of "comprising".

Claim 7 has been amended to change "having" in subparts a) and b) to the open-ended language "comprising". In subpart b), "at least" has been deleted since the open-ended language "comprising" was added. In subpart c), the word "fusion" was deleted because the protein consisting of the amino acid sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO: 2 is not a fusion protein; it is the SDI-1 protein. In sub-part c) the phrases "encoded by a sequence" and "the coding sequence" have been deleted because the sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO: 2 is not a nucleotide sequence – it is the amino acid sequence. In subpart d) the word "coding" has been added before "sequence" and the phrase "of the coding sequence" has been deleted for consistency with the language used in Claims 2, 5 and 7 (a and b).

Claim 8 has been amended by adding "antibody" after the word "which" to make it clear that it is the antibody which specifically binds to the SDI-1 fragment.

Claim 9 has been amended to correct the dependency from Claim 29 to Claim 8.

Claim 11 has been amended to include "or splenocyte" which was in the original claim but left out of the amended claim. Please note dependent Claims 13 and 15 refer to the splenocyte.

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Claims 12, 13, 14 and 15 have been amended to change the dependency from Claim 32 to renumbered Claim 11.

Claim 18 has been amended to delete an extraneous comma.

B. Telephone Conferences

This paper will make of record the telephone conference of September 14, 2004 between the undersigned, Dr. Isabel Cantallops, and Examiner Gucker. Changes in Claims 2, 5, and 7 were discussed.

Since the Rule 312 Amendment of July 12, 2004 was not entered, this paper will make of record the telephone conferences of June 10, 2004 when Claims 22, 24, 25, 28, 31, 32, 37, 38, and 39 were discussed and of June 15, 2004 when Claims 24, 25 and 28 were discussed by the undersigned, Dr. Cantallops, and Examiner Gucker.

C. Conclusion

The Examiner is thanked for his helpful suggestions.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. No new matter is presented.

Respectfully submitted,

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